IN THE CLAIMS:

Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Please cancel claims 26 through 39 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1 through 25 and 40 as set forth hereinbelow. Please note that withdrawn claims 4 through 6, 11, 12, 14 through 19 have been amended and include the status identifier "Withdrawn – currently amended" which has been identified as an acceptable status identifier (see MPEP §714(C)(E)).

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A deployable truss comprising:

a plurality of column members connected at their ends to form a deployable truss that forms a rigid structure in a deployed state and that has a stowage volume less than its deployed volume in a collapsed state, wherein at least some of the plurality of column members comprise column assemblies including a plurality of strut members, each strut member of an associated column assembly being connected to each other strut member of the associated column assembly at a first end of the column assembly and at a second end of the column assembly.

2. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein strut members of a column assembly are substantially symmetrically arranged about ~~the~~ a centerline of the column assembly.

3. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein strut members of a column assembly are further connected to each other at a location between the first and second ends of the column assembly when the truss is in the deployed state.

4. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 3, wherein the strut members of the column assembly are rigidly connected using a rigidizable resin.

5. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 4, wherein the rigidizable resin comprises a thermoplastic resin.

6. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 4, wherein the rigidizable resin comprises a UV curable resin.

7. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 3, wherein at least some of the strut members of the column assembly ~~include~~ exhibit a substantially helical twist ~~around the~~ about a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly.

8. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein each column assembly further comprises a spacer connecting the plurality of strut members of the column assembly at a location between the first end and the second end ~~ends~~ of the column assembly.

9. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 8, wherein the spacer connects the strut member of the column assembly near ~~the~~ a midpoint between the first and second ends of the column assembly.

10. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 8, wherein the spacer is collapsible to a stowed configuration when the truss is in the collapsed state and expandable to a deployed configuration that radially spaces the plurality of strut members of the column assembly away from ~~the~~ a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly when the truss is in the deployed state.

11. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 8, wherein the spacer comprises a rigid spacer that radially spaces the plurality of strut members of the column assembly away from ~~the~~ a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly a fixed distance in both the deployed and collapsed states.

12. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 11, wherein the spacer is substantially V-shaped.

13. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 8, wherein the plurality of strut members of the column assembly taper toward ~~the~~ a centerline of the column assembly at the first end and the second ~~ends~~ end of the column assembly when the truss is in the deployed state.

14. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein each column assembly further comprises a plurality of spacers connecting the plurality of strut members of the column assembly, each of the plurality of spacers connecting the plurality of strut members of the column assembly at a different location between the first end and the second ~~ends~~ end of the column assembly~~strut members~~.

15. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 14, wherein ~~the~~ each spacer is collapsible to a stowed configuration when the truss is in the collapsed state and expandable to a deployed configuration that radially spaces the plurality of strut members of the column assembly away from ~~the~~ a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly when the truss is in the deployed state.

16. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 14, wherein ~~the~~ each spacer comprises a rigid spacer that radially spaces the plurality of strut members of the column assembly away from ~~the~~ a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly a fixed distance in both the deployed and collapsed states.

17. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 16, wherein ~~the~~ each spacer is substantially V-shaped.

18. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 17, wherein the spacer of each column assembly is arranged to permit nesting with the spacer of another column assembly when the truss is in the collapsed state.

19. (Withdrawn - currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 14, wherein the plurality of strut members of the column assembly taper toward ~~the~~ a centerline of the column assembly at each of the first end and the second end ~~ends~~ of the column assembly when the truss is in its deployed state.

20. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein at least some of the plurality of strut members comprise tubes.

21. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of strut members ~~comprise rods~~ comprises a rod.

22. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of strut members ~~are~~ is formed from a continuous fiber reinforced composite material.

23. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 22, wherein the continuous fiber reinforced composite material comprises glass fibers.

24. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 22, wherein the continuous fiber reinforced composite material comprises graphite fibers.

25. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ each of the column assemblies ~~are~~ is tapered on at least one end.

26-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently amended) A deployable truss comprising:

a plurality of contiguously attached deployable bays forming a rigid space truss when in a deployed state and having a stowage volume substantially less than their deployed volume when in a collapsed state, each bay comprising a plurality of column members, wherein at least some of the plurality of column members comprise column assemblies having a centerline; and

wherein each column assembly comprises a plurality of strut members, each strut member being connected to each other strut member at a first end of the column assembly and at a second end of the column assembly, the plurality of strut members being substantially symmetrically arranged about the centerline of the column assembly.